

## **Conservationists Converge on New Orleans**

Over 200 conservation district supervisors, representatives, and board members from the southeast and south central regions of the National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD) met recently in New Orleans, Louisiana, to conduct a joint annual business meeting. The conservationists, who traveled from 14 states and the Virgin Islands, obtained information on improving their ability to exert influence on political processes at the local, state, and national levels.

A partnership forum, *The Future of Conservation Districts*, was also conducted to help conservation district leaders in future endeavors and projects related to natural resource conservation. Read Smith, NACD President, addressed the group and urged the conservation district officials to be more involved in all facets of conservation work, especially in assisting with conservation legislation and the next Farm Bill.

The National Association of Conservation Districts is made up of nearly 3,000 soil and water conservation districts nationwide that work to conserve and develop land, water, forests, wildlife and related resources for the benefit of all. More than 15,000 men and women serve on the governing bodies of districts.

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